

## IOWAccess Request for Design & Implementation Funding Web-Based Property Valuation Submission

**Date:** July 11, 2007  
**Project Name:** Web-Based Property Valuation Submission  
**Requesting Agency:** Iowa Department of Management  
**Project Point-of-Contact:** Mike Albers  
515 281-5598  
**Project Sponsor:** Iowa Department of Management  
Mike Albers  
515 281-5598

### **Goal:**

To establish a centralized database and application with Internet accessibility that would allow County Auditors to annually report property valuations for the coming budget year. The target is to provide functionality and features at least comparable to the existing desktop software. This architecture will eliminate the current process of duplicative reading and writing of valuation data that can introduce errors and dropped data.

To make valuation data, aggregated by local levying authority, available on-line as soon as the data is reported by the county.

### **Project Purpose:**

This project will create a Web-based approach to this process, eliminating the need for the Department of Management to deliver and support custom desktop software on annual basis. This desktop software provides the vehicle for the 99 County Auditors to report and perform field validation of the valuation data for their county.

By going to a centralized architecture, we will be able to eliminate duplicative reading and writing of the valuation data. Currently, the data is entered into the desktop valuation software. It is then modified as necessary and saved to a file. That file is then sent to the Department of Management. The Department of Management then takes that file and loads its data into a SQL database. The new system would allow the County Auditors to directly load valuation data into, and edit the data on, the existing or other central database.

This system will be able to make early valuation data available on-line, saving significant time and effort for the parties needing such data and for the County Auditors as well. Currently someone wanting early valuation data for a local government levying authority must contact that county's Auditor. If that levying authority should happen to span multiple counties, such as is the case for school districts and community colleges, they would have to separately contact the Auditor for each of the counties involved. The new system would eliminate that process and allow them to get the data quickly and efficiently, with a minimum of effort from one central source.

### **Background:**

County Auditors are required to annually report property valuations to the Department of Management by January 1. The Department of Management provides a custom desktop software package, which is used by the 99 counties to create a file for reporting valuation data. Deploying and supporting the custom software is a very time-consuming and costly process for both the Department of Management and for the County Auditors. Even with extensive testing, there are always PCs in the field upon which the software will not properly install or operate.

### **Request:**

Due to the significant impact to the customer of failing to meet a November 1 delivery date, we are attempting to compress the timeline for this project. Taking into account the schedule for IOWAccess meetings, we felt it necessary to request both Design and Implementation funding at this time. The amount being requested is our estimate for project completion based on our current knowledge of the requirements. Because we are replacing functionality already in place we feel that this is a reasonable approach. It is our intention to present a final figure at the

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September meeting; one that will be based on a much greater understanding of the work to be performed.

This request is for \$185,000 for the Design and Implementation Phases. That amount is broken down in the following manner.

Planning Completion & Design	\$47,500
Implementation/Execution	\$113,000
Contingency & Risk (15%)	\$24,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$185,000</b>

**Interested Parties/Recipients of this Service:**

- Iowa County Auditors
- Iowa Department of Management
- Local Government Levying Authorities
- Bond Counsel
- Financial Community
- General Citizenry